

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 IGA-02 EB-11 SS-15 NSC-10

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-03 OMB-01 TRSE-00

RSR-01 /093 W

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P R 051352Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9065

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

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FOR ADAMS AND NEWSOM FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, EAID

SUBJ: AID LOAN FOR AFDB

REF: (A) STATE 127544 (B) LUSAKA 1206

1. US DELEGATION HAS DISCUSSED WITH ME SITUATION ON SUBJECT LOAN AND LABIDI REACTION, REPORTED REF B. MATTER IS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND CONCERN TO ME BECAUSE OF LOCATION OF CONFERENCE THIS YEAR, PROMINENT AND ACTIVE ROLE OF ZAMBIANS, AND THEIR EXPECTATION WITH OTHER AFRICANS OF OUTSIDE SUPPORT ON ENCOURAGEMENT OF TRULY AFRICAN PROJECT AT AN HOUR OF SPECIAL NEED, E.G. DROUGHT IN SAHELIAN ZONE AND ZAMBIAN TRANSPORTATION EMERGENCY AND RELATED DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS.

2. AT RECEPTION FOR DELEGATES, MWANAKATWE, ZAMBIA MINFIN AND NEWLY ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF GOVERNORS OF AFDB AND AFDF, EMPHASIZED COLLECTIVE DISAPPOINTMENT AT LAST MINUTE "WITHDRAWAL" AND PRESSED US FOR SIGNIFICANCE OF ACTION. DESPITE OUR EFFORTS, ASSUMPTION HERE THAT DECISION REFLECTS MORE THAN PROCEDURAL DELAY OR CONGRESSIONAL PROBLEM CANNOT BE DISPELLED EASILY. AT OPENING CEREMONIES, GOVERNOR OF BANK OF ZAMBIA KUWANI EAGERLY

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SOUGHT ME OUT TO EXPRESS HOPE U.S. WOULD BE ABLE TO DEMONSTRATE

ITS SUPPORT OF BANK AND FUND.

3. AS LABIDI INDICATES, FURTHER DELAY WOULD BECOME INCREASINGLY
SERIOUS FROM STANDPOINT BANK'S OPERATIONS OVER NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS
AS LENDING PROGRAM AFFECTED BY UNCERTAINTY. MORE IMMEDIATELY,
DOUBTS RE US SINCERITY IN EXPRESSIONS SUPPORT FOR BANK WILL
RAPIDLY INCREASE.

4. BELIEVE EARLY COMPLETION THIS LOAN MERITS HIGH PRIORITY AND
WOULD APPRECIATE WASHINGTON GUIDANCE ON WHAT I MIGHT SAY TO
MINFIN MWANAKATWE THAT WOULD PUT OUR CASE IN BETTER LIGHT.
WILKOWSKI

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